Russian sale of Defence equipment to Pakistan

4122. SHRI SOM PAL:
SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Russia have agreed to sell defence equipment to Pakistan in consultation with India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

PM's visit to China

4123. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister proposes to visit China;

(b) if so, by when it is going to be materialised; and

(c) what are the details of the areas of mutual interest identified for discussion?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes sir. Dates will be determined through diplomatic channels depending on mutual convenience.

(c) During his visit, Prime Minister is expected to have discussions on a broad range of issues concerning the development of our bilateral relation with China, as also regional and international issues of common interest.

Ceremonials accorded to foreign visitors

4124. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the latest rules of Ceremonials accorded to various foreign and commonwealth visitors;

(b) whether such ceremonial rules have lately been reviewed;

(c) whether there is a proposal for review; and

(d) what is being done to bring in the ethos of Indian culture in the ceremonials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Ceremonials are accorded to Heads of State and Heads of Government on state visit only. There are no ceremonies at the airport on arrival. These are held at the forecourt of the Rashtrapati Bhavan.

(b) and (c) Ceremonials are kept under constant review with a view to maximise efficiency with the requirements of protocol.

(d) Procedures for according ceremonials to visiting dignitaries were drawn up keeping in mind the Indian ethos and well established international practices on the subject.